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ZNY SSSSS ZOC STATE ZZH STU2574 ZZ RUEHC DE RUEHTV #2616 2311013 ZNY SSSSS ZZH ZZK Z 191012Z AUG 82 ZFF-4 FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH 7628 RUQMBE/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT FLASH 0676 INFO RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE 0238 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 3406 RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE 7331 RUEHJM/AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE 5839 RUEHJI/AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE 5936 RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE 1326

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE 4054 RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1385 BT

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 12616

EXDIS

SHORTLY.

FOR HABIB FROM LEWIS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PEPR, MILI, PINT, MOPS, LE, IS, US, SY, PLO, UN SUBJECT: HABIB MISSION: ISRAELI CABINET APPROVES THE DEPARTURE PLAN

REF: A) BEIRUT 5502 (NOTAL), B) BEIRUT 5500 (NOTAL) C) TEL AVIV 12610 (NOTAL), D) TEL AVIV 12609 (NOTAL) (S - ENTIRE TEXT)

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN INFORMED ME AT 11:30 LOCAL AUGUST 19 THAT THE ISRAELI CABINET HAS APPROVED THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PLO AND SYRIAN DEPARTURE FROM BEIRUT AS SET FORTH IN THE DEPARTURE PLAN WHICH I FORWARDED TO HIM YESTERDAY AFTERNOON. A COMMUNIQUE WILL BE ISSUED BY THE CABINET

THE CABINET APPROVAL TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE MINOR LAST MINUTE ADJUSTMENTS IN THE PLAN AND EXPLANATIONS CONTAINED IN REFS A AND B. AFTER RECEIPT OF THESE TWO MESSAGES FROM HABIB, I CALLED BEGIN OUT OF THE CABINET MEETING AND GAVE TO HIM THE RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONS HE HAD POSED EARLIER THIS MORNING (REFS C AND D). HE ACCEPTED ALL OF THESE POINTS AND WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH HABIB'S AGREEM TO ADOPT BEGIN'S PREFERRED LANGUAGE FOR ARTICLE 3 REGARDI G UN OBSERVERS. TO RESTATE THAT LANGUAGE, ARTICLE 3 OF THE PLAN WOULD NOW READ: "THE UN OBSERVER GROUP NOW STATIONED IN THE BEIRUT AREA WILL CONTINUE THIS FUNCTION IN THAT AREA."

WITH RESPECT TO THE ISSUE RAISED IN REF B CONCERNING VERIFICATION OF NAMES AND NUMBERS, BEGIN ACCEPTED THE POSITION AS RELAYED TO ME IN BEIRUT 5500 BUT ASKED THAT HABIB DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO OBTAIN THE NAMES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

State Dept. review completed

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5. ON THE SUBJECT OF ARTICLE 21 AND THE GRAVES OF THE SOLDIERS WHO FELL IN 1978, BEGIN SAID HE WAS NOT QUARRELING WITH THE LANGUAGE OF ARTICLE 21 BUT ANXIOUS TO GET THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOCATIONS OF THE GRAVES IN AS MUCH SPECIFICITY AS POSSIBLE AND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. HE SAID THEY WOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH THE ICRC IN ISRAEL ALSO AND ACCEPTED HABIB'S COMMITMENT TO DO OUR BEST WITH BOTH THE PLO AND THE ICRC.

- 6. CONCERNING ARTICLE 22, BEGIN SAID HE HAD INDEED CON-VEYED TO THE CABINET HABIB'S PERSONAL CONVICTION THAT THE SYRIAN FORCES WOULD MOVE ON TO SYRIA AFTER A BRIEF STOPOVER IN THE BIQ'A, MAKING CLEAR THAT THIS IS NOT THE KIND OF AN ASSURANCE WHICH CAN BE IRONCLAD OR WRITTEN DOWN IN THE PLAN. BEGIN SAID THE CABINET ACCEPTED ARTICLE 22 ON THAT BASIS.
- 7. AT THE END OF OUR CONVERSATION BEGIN ASKED ME TO CONVEY HIS DEEPEST APPRECIATION TO PHIL HABIB ONCE AGAIN FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY WORK HE HAS DONE AND TO ASK HIM TO STOP IN JERUSALEM AT THE END OF THE PERIOD OF HIS TIME IN BEIRUT BEFORE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUER, BEGIN SAID HE ASSUMED HABIB WOULD REMAIN IN BEIRUT UNTIL THE DEPARTURE OF THE PLO WAS COMPLETE AND THEN WOULD BE RETURNING TO WASHINGTON. HE WAS NOT ASKING HABIB TO COME BACK TO JERUSALEM UNTIL THE DEPARTURE PROCESS WAS COMPLET 'ALTHOUGH HE WOULD OF COURSE BE WELCOME ANY TIME.

 8. BEIRUT AND DAMASCUS MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. LEWIS END OF MESSAGE